efficient organizations, equipments and corps of instructors for the preparation of the one type of chemist, but this very success seems frequently to make impracticable the training of men for research. The conscientious American professor has usually devoted his life to bringing his students up to a certain promising stage of interest in science and experiment, only to see them scatter before they have had any experience with questioning nature, or have tried any unbeaten chemical byway.

While I am greatly interested in what might be done for science by technical research laboratories in the industries, I am sure that the university must be the important factor in guiding the pioneer work if we are to be a sufficiently advancing nation.

Let me recall recent words of President Wilson:

> I know I reflect your feeling and the feeling of all our citizens when I say the only thing I am afraid of is not being ready to perform our duty. I am afraid of the danger of shame. I am afraid of the danger of inadequacy. I am afraid of the danger of not being able to express the correct character of the country with tremendous might and effectiveness whenever we are called upon to act in the field of the world's affairs.

These words ring true. The American spirit is characterized by them. But think further a moment. They refer to a fear based upon an entirely corrigible defect. The cure is in our hands. The time when we are called upon to act in the field of the world's affairs is *now*; but it was yesterday, and it will be to-morrow. I maintain that no nation can effectively act in that field at odd or selected moments. It is either doing it much of the time, or it is likely to be unable to do it any of the time.

WILLIS R. WHITNEY

GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY,
SCHENECTADY, N. Y.

THE COMMITTEE ON POLICY OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

THE Committee on the Policy of the American Association for the Advancement of Science met on April 17, 1916, in Washington. Messrs. E. L. Nichols, *chairman;* Charles R. Van Hise, *president;* R. S. Woodward, *treasurer,* J. McK. Cattell, W. J. Humphreys, A. A. Noyes, Stewart Paton, E. C. Pickering and L. O. Howard, *permanent secretary,* were present.

The committee on delegates to the meetings was instructed to make an especial effort to secure delegates from the educational and other scientific institutions to the New York meeting, as this will be the first of the large four-year meetings.

The treasurer and the permanent secretary presented financial reports which were ordered printed in SCIENCE.

The committee on new affiliated societies reported that the following societies had been admitted to affiliation: American Genetic Association, Eugenics Research Association, Illuminating Engineering Society, Wilson Ornithological Club, and the Mid-West Forestry Association. The American Institute of Chemical Engineers and the American Society of Heating and Ventilating Engineers were invited to become affiliated.

The treasurer reported with regard to the Colburn bequest and stated that approximately seventy-eight thousand dollars ($78,000) in cash and bonds had been turned over to him by the executors. On motion, the treasurer was authorized to convert cash to the amount of eighty thousand dollars ($80,000) into securities approved by the state laws of New York and Massachusetts for savings banks and trust funds. On motion, it was directed that these investments be made with the advice of a committee of three, of which the treasurer and Mr. A. S. Frissell shall be members, they to select the third member.

The permanent secretary announced the death of Professor Thomas J. Burrill, the chairman of Section G, stating that he had sent, in the name of the committee, a tele-

gram of condolence to the president of the University of Illinois. On motion, such nomination as the sectional committee of Section G may make to fill the vacancy caused by this death shall be final.

A discussion followed with regard to the arrangements for the New York meeting. It was moved and carried that a committee consisting of Messrs. Charles Baskerville, N. L. Britton, J. McK. Cattell, Simon Flexner, M. I. Pupin, Henry F. Osborn, J. J. Stevenson and Edmund B. Wilson, be appointed an executive committee to make the New York arrangements.

The report of the committee on the administration of the Colburn will fund was submitted by Professor Pickering. On motion, it was moved to refer the report back to the committee for revision to include the administration of all research funds of the association, to add Messrs. A. A. Noyes and W. B. Cannon to the committee, and to make a final report to the committee on policy at its next meeting in November. It was suggested further that it might be well to refer the first draft of the report by mail to the members of the committee on policy.

At 10.25 P.M., the committee adjourned.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

HILGARD HALL has been selected as the name for the new agricultural building being built by the University of California, in honor of the late Eugene Woldemar Hilgard, for a generation professor of agriculture and dean of the college of agriculture of the University of California.

AT the meeting of the Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, on May 17, Franklin medals will be presented to Professor Theodore William Richards, director of the Wolcott Gibbs Memorial Laboratory, Harvard University, and to John J. Carty, chief engineer of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company. The Elliott Cresson medal will be presented to the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, Theodore N. Vail, president. Addresses will be made by Professor Richards on "The Fundamental Properties of the Elements," by Mr. Carty on "The Telephone Art" and by Mr. Vail.

H. H. STOEK, professor of mining engineering in the University of Illinois, has been appointed by Governor Dunne, of Illinois, as a member of the commission authorized to consider legislation concerning mines.

THE Mary Putnam Jacobi Memorial Fellowship has been awarded to Dr. Mildred Clark, Johns Hopkins, 1914, who will use the fellowship for research work in medical bacteriology with Dr. Theodore C. Janeway at the Johns Hopkins Hospital.

DR. ALVIN POWELL has been appointed physician for men and roentgenologist in the infirmary of the University of California.

THE position of horticulturist to the Missouri Botanical Garden has been filled by the appointment of Mr. Alexander Lurie. Mr. Lurie is a graduate of Cornell University, and has been in charge of greenhouses and instructor in floriculture, in the University of Maine.

PROFESSOR A. L. KROEBER, head of the department of anthropology in the University of California, is spending the present academic year in New York City as a guest of the American Museum of Natural History.

BECAUSE of ill health, Professor A. Fraenkel retired from the directorship of the Krankenhaus am Urban in Berlin, on April 1. He is succeeded by Professor A. Plehn, who has been the physician in chief of the medical division for the past thirteen years. Most of his time has been devoted to the study of tropical diseases and diseases of the blood.

DR. WILLIAM PALMER LUCAS, professor of pediatrics, University of California, has gone to Belgium for relief work in connection with the infants' and children's dietetic problems which have arisen there.

MR. SHOITSU HOTTA, assistant professor of forestry at the Tokyo Imperial University, has entered the Yale School of Forestry. Mr. Hotta will be in the United States for a period of two years.